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# WASHINGTON, D. C.

For the National Era.  
ATHRIST.  
BY CATH. HAMILTON.

The Spring is come. The laughing Spring  
Which, when I was a child, and in my youth,  
Can bring no gladness to my heart,  
No sunshine to my eye.

The buds of summer shall unfold,  
Shall blossom to the perfect rose;  
And then shall come the maple's gold,  
And then the year shall close.

Time was when every evening moon  
Brought round to store of sweets for me—  
Ah! I think upon days  
That never more shall be.

I see the Good before my eyes—  
The Good I never may attain.  
I have no strength to grasp the prize—  
Ah, me! 'tis laid, hard pain.

Alas! the texture of this life!  
It is but a web of pain and grief,  
I pluck the purple hanging grapes,  
And, standing here apart,

I press the cooling wine of life,  
I hear it to the waiting throat—  
It flashes in the eager eye—  
It trembles in the song.

And I stand here apart,  
I have no strength to grasp the prize—  
Ah, me! 'tis laid, hard pain.  
The seasons come—the seasons go;  
But I—I am athrill.

Entered according to act of Congress, in the year 1857, by  
CATH. HAMILTON, in the Clerk's Office of the District Court  
of the District of Connecticut.

# THE AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF A NEW ENGLAND GIRL.

BY MARTHA RUSSELL.  
CHAPTER XXVII.—Continued.

When we reached the orchard boundary, he paused, and said—  
"You had been weeping when I came across to you in the wood. Why tell me why?"

"No, sir. It was nothing that concerned any one but myself."

"Not for the broken crockery, certainly," he returned, with a smile. "I did not suppose that. Yet, it is something unusual for you. You still continue to like Higginoff?"

"Yes, sir. I shall be very sorry to leave it—to never see it again!"

"Never see it again! What nonsense is getting into your head, Lina!"

"I was thinking of the changes that might come."

"Changes! Oh, yes! it won't be my fault if they don't come, but don't let them trouble your head, child. I see there is quite common sense to help me. Say, there is our queenly Julia on the verandah. A stately woman, I faith. I had intended to keep a corner of my heart for two or three friends, yourself among the rest, Lina; but I'm afraid that, with her seated there, you'll find it a tight squeeze—a taste of the old punishment by 'pressure,' which some of your forebears might have been made acquainted in the old witchcraft times."

"Ridiculous as was his way of stating it, I knew it was the truth, and it struck to my heart like a lump of ice. He must have divined it somehow, for he went on—

"I forget; my regal lady is not quite perfect in your eyes, I believe, (thanks to your honesty for the knowledge); and, *entre nous*, I have myself observed a few faults in her—for instance, a disposition to snub you occasionally—all owing to the excess of that quality by which, according to Milton, angels fell. But I am a man of leisure, and it will be a delightful occupation to correct these trifling defects, and mould her ductile mind to my own standard. I shall find it plastic as brick, no doubt!"

Was she really the woman of whom he had spoken a few moments before, with such deep, concentrated feeling? Would he speak of her with such a cool, ironical way, if he truly loved her? I could not say, he was so peculiar in many things; but one thing I did know, that it was just as natural and unavoidable for me to love him with my whole heart, as it was to breathe.

As we came across the lawn and up to the verandah, Miss Julia gave me a look of unmistakable scorn and suspicion. I think the gentleman noticed it, for there was a curious expression about his mouth, as he addressed her, with some commonplace phrase of gallantry; but I did not stay to analyze it, being glad to escape to my room.

The next morning he left for the city, to be absent for some days, as he had to attend to the affairs of the ladies. In his absence, the country lost all its charms for the Lloyds, and Miss Annesley was easily persuaded that the mornings were getting too cold for her; so, two weeks after that we anticipated, we were settled in Beekman street.

Wishing to please her guests, and no longer suffering from lameness, Miss Annesley entered into society much more now than she had done before. Her first month of residence there, and her office of companion became almost a sinecure, and she had become so, had it not been for Miss Julia Lloyd, who seemed bent upon reducing it to that of seamstress or lady's maid. Sometimes I found myself as a crime, and her plans without coming to an open rupture, which would probably end in my dismissal—a denouement which, I fancied, would not be displeasing to her, for my indifference to her was so manifest, that I could not be overlooked by one of her disposition.

But I was not quite ready for this. I knew I must go; I felt that it would indeed be death, by the old lingering torture of pressure, to stay there after the death of Mr. Annesley; but it required more vigor of nerve than I had just then, to break at one strain the ties that bound me to the place where I had first truly tasted life, because no longer repressed and fettered by ignorance and inferiority.

I tried to ascertain from my mistress just when this marriage would take place; but, notwithstanding her arduous and diplomatic nature, I was convinced that she was really ignorant of the subject as myself, and, like the condemned criminal, I was weak enough to cherish a feeling of relief at the indefinite time that still left me the shelter of my roof. Another circumstance added to my anxiety during this time. I could nowhere find little Adeline's fate.

"She had left her lodgings on Mulberry street," the woman of the house said, "the first of July, for others in Sheriff street, near the corner of Delancy, she believed—the number she had forgotten."

What should I do? To write would be useless without the number, and I dare not attempt to explore that eastern portion of the city alone. I might, doubtless, hear her through Tom Hunt; but I might be recognized, and shrink from the idea of renewing my acquaintance with him or his mother with horror; or, there was Honor—I was a favorite with her—she was a middle-aged woman, and had long resided in the city. Might I not take her into my confidence, and secure her aid?

I was thinking over this one afternoon, about two weeks after our return, as I sat in the library, unpacking and arranging some books, when I was interrupted by a knock. A woman came to a fashionable dinner with the Lloyds. My work progressed slowly, for my heart and fingers were both heavy. Finally, I



JOHN G. WHITTIER, CORRESPONDING EDITOR.

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G. BAILEY, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR; JOHN G. WHITTIER, CORRESPONDING EDITOR.

opened one of the books, and tried to forget my dismal thought, but the book fell from my hand, and a sound of a voice in the hall, which sent the blood tingling through my listless frame, saying—  
"This way, sir. We will go into the library, if you please."

There was no time to escape—the only other door communicating with the room being locked; and the next instant Mr. Annesley opened the door, and ushered in—James Sanborn! "Ah, Miss Lina!" he said, carelessly, "if he had come in three or four weeks instead of a three weeks absence. 'You are busy as usual. Don't let us disturb you.' Mr. Sanborn, Miss Ray. Please find the gentleman a seat, Lina, while I let in a little more light. This 'dim religious' medium may do for girls, but not for lawyers!"

I have a memory of having stood bolt-upright, stiff and unbending as the statue of the commander of the famous supper scene in *Macbeth's Don Giovanni*, while James Sanborn smiled and bowed, saluting me with as perfect sang froid as if he had never met me before in his life.

But while Mr. Annesley swept back the heavy curtain, and attempted to raise a shaft in front of the blind, muttering strange anathemas at its obstinacy, he took occasion to utter a few words that put life into the statue. They ran thus, in that well-remembered, soft, low tone which you thought to hear only in your dreams: "Well, I certainly did not, though for some time I recalled the spirited, elish, twine, you need not wince, Miss Ray; she was twice as dark as you, without your transparency—a veritable little piper, with a strange interest, and felt glad that she had a home with gentle Agnes Lathrop. One thing is certain: she must have developed a character of some strength and originality, for she was a favorite with Rothery Cavendish, and she was a position of trust and responsibility in the school, which she continued to hold for some years. Found she must be; and I have a sort of a fancy, Miss Lina, that your woman's wit would be a great help to her by which this end may be accomplished."

Should I do it? Should I yield to the almost uncontrollable impulse I felt, to kneel at the feet of my father's friend, the friend of my own childhood, and say, "Behold, I am Philip Cavendish's child!" If there had been in his manner the slightest indication that he suspected as much, I should have done it; but there was not, and that reflection saved me. I thought of Edward's approaching marriage, of the change soon to take place in his own household, and I said— "When I make this confession, I will hold the lines of my destiny in my own hands, as far as possible, and make it deliberate, and not a moment; but before I could speak, and satisfy of many a man, he said—  
"I immediately made my escape, and sat a long time pondering what evil me to his presence in the house betokened."

It might have been an hour later, that Honor appeared, with Mr. Annesley's compliments, and requested, or rather commanded, for me to "go down to the library."

James Sanborn was gone, and the master was reclining in his large, stuffed chair, with his feet on a stool, and his hands on his knees, looking at me with a smile, and saying, "I have never seen him use it but once or twice before—saying, while he pointed to the sofa—  
"Be seated, Miss Ray. I believe my life at Higginoff has spoiled me—For I, find, is no longer sufficient company. What have you been doing in my absence?"

"Not much, sir—getting up the ladies' shoes, and the night I had the time, could for so many months that I have heard some talk about my old friend Rothery Cavendish's estate, and the young girl who suddenly started up and asserted a claim to it as his brother's child, and as suddenly disappeared?"

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Oakland teacher, *Zerkia*. The most singular circumstance of the whole affair is, that, on coming back, and comparing notes with Spencer, I find that, some years ago, this same child was thrown into my hands. Being on the point of departing for Europe, I transferred her to a cousin, a friend, who I introduced into her head to marry, not long after; and the child proving stiff-necked and rebellious, it is said, and, quite as likely, a stumbling-block in the way of her husband's family, was sent to this Oakland school, and the school was closed. My cousin soon after left the country; but I have written to her, to make confirmation doubly sure."

"I understood you to say that you should recognize your friend's child," I said, as steadily, "dim religious" medium may do for girls, but not for lawyers!"

"Well, I certainly did not; though for some time I recalled the spirited, elish, twine, you need not wince, Miss Ray; she was twice as dark as you, without your transparency—a veritable little piper, with a strange interest, and felt glad that she had a home with gentle Agnes Lathrop. One thing is certain: she must have developed a character of some strength and originality, for she was a favorite with Rothery Cavendish, and she was a position of trust and responsibility in the school, which she continued to hold for some years. Found she must be; and I have a sort of a fancy, Miss Lina, that your woman's wit would be a great help to her by which this end may be accomplished."

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"That brother was the dearest friend of my boyhood; and as soon as I was notified of the fact, I immediately set out on a journey, and after some time and his wish, and set for some time silent, occasionally passing his hand slowly over his head. Finally, he roused himself, saying—  
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neighborhood, or, at all events, to take measures to neutralize their hostility, if not to secure their good will.

## WASHINGTON, D. C.

THURSDAY, JULY 16, 1857.

The office of the *National Era* is removed to the newly-erected "Republican Building," corner of Indiana avenue and Second street.

The Washington *Union* of the 7th contained a long editorial upon "Governor Walker and the South," in which it defends the Governor against the attacks of the Southern journals. The article is regarded as reflecting the sentiments of the Administration, and, as such, is full of interest and importance. We shall publish it next week.

This American Republic of ours, which feels so well assured of the soundness of its political system, and efficiency of its governmental and social institutions, and withal so proud of its progress, and so hopeful of its prospects, is nevertheless terribly embarrassed with one of its accidental involvements. It has ordained a Federal Constitution, established Justice, insured Domestic Tranquillity, provided for the Common Defence, promoted the General Welfare, and secured the blessings of Liberty to Ourselves and our Posterity, about as well as could be expected under the circumstances. It honestly intended all these great things; some of them it has performed quite up to the spirit of the promise, in others it has even gone beyond both its pledges and its hopes; and beside all this, it has done some good things on a large scale for the world, which it neither owed to it nor contracted for. The account between the and the civilized nations of the earth shows a large balance in its favor, and it justly as well as proudly insists upon an acknowledgment of the credit due to it. It admits the ignorance and pauperism of the Old World to all the advantages which it holds for itself—it contributes nobly to the general commerce and industry of the nations, and gives its great moral force to the support of the public law which harmonizes their necessary intercourse. It has not disturbed the world's peace, it has not impaired its prosperity; civilization, political and ecclesiastical liberty, have received no check or wrong at its hands. No people endeavoring to do anything for themselves have any complaint to make against it for injurious interference or hurtful influence: nothing in its system, policy, interests, or purposes, does or threatens any hurt, hindrance, or harm, to any people capable of national life, under the sun.

All these claims upon the world's regard it has made good by the uniform justice and beneficence of its deeds; nevertheless, it has manifold troubles in its own bosom and boundaries, which it can scarcely raise the resources to face, or the wisdom to manage. It is, in fact, so doubtful of its power to relieve itself, that it has hardly the will to attempt it. Its conscience is troubled, its reputation is hurt, its peace is broken, and its reason is perplexed, so much, that it has not the available use of either head or heart to retrieve its condition.

It is encumbered with the curse of Chattel Slavery. The People, who have not only ordained, but established for themselves, the freest Government that the world ever saw, hold one-sixth of their population in absolute bondage. One-half of the sovereign States in the Confederacy are arrayed by their institutions and interests against the other half, on all the points of policy involved in the maintenance of the system of Slavery, and two-thirds of the free people are at strife with the other third for supporting and defending it. The principle of Slavery affronts the sentiments of the age, and resists the religious, moral, and political righteousness which it professes. Its industrial energy is the barbarous system of unmixed agriculture, unenlightened labor, incapable of any form of political policy higher or freer than the feudalism of the twelfth century, endeavoring in the nineteenth to hold a place and preserve an equality with the skilled industry of freemen; and under the contract of the Constitution demanding legislation to guard its incapacities, and restrain the energies of that free industry which tends to throw it as far behind in the race of progress as it stands in historic date. Standing upon a merely conventional equality of political rights, conceded for its defence against unwarrantable aggression, it insists upon a policy of political economy, legislation, and administration, which of natural right it cannot claim, and which the antagonistic interest finds it utterly impossible to allow. A hard bargain may be fairly fulfilled, and a severe law obeyed, while they are construed favorably to the right, and equitably exacted of their oppressiveness; but when they are held as precedents, and pledges for harder and severer still, in relief of all the natural and necessary pinches, which the wrong is exposed by its constantly-recurring conflicts with the right—when the party in the right is required to be the perpetual insurers of the party essentially in the wrong, and growing at every step more and more incapable of that reciprocity which is the essence and consideration of a contract, neither moral nor jurisprudence will enforce it to the letter, much less beyond the letter of the engagement, but rather relieve, or, in the language of the chancery lawyers, reform the contract.

The hardship of the partnership is in this—the contract, both in terms and spirit, holds the several parties as yielding nothing of their respective independency, foregoing nothing of their several peculiarities, submitting nothing of their distinctive policy and interests to the government of the common Directory; each member being bound to abstain from all interference with or annoyance of the other, and so to use his own advantages as not to prejudice the interests of the co-partners, or any of them. But the possibility of keeping such an engagement as this, to the satisfaction of all concerned, clearly depends upon a general likeness of interests and objects, a community of advantages resulting from the conduct of the common affairs, and a cordial concurrence of all the members in that management which puts the best capabilities of the best members to their best use and profit. But the States in this Union are not so circumstanced and disposed that they can thus concur in every measure which would indirectly benefit the best-conditioned, and indirectly eventually the whole. They can all obtain from direct invasion of the several sovereignties, and so far observe the compact exactly; but the things which fall not within the boundaries of exclusive jurisdiction, the outlying common domain of the Confederacy, its interests, foreign and future, necessarily subject to the influence of the joint administration, are the grounds of strife, where the conflicting policies of the partners to the Union have their mischievous activity.

A large portion of the Confederacy has put its system upon the basis of the personal liberty and political equality of all its inhabitants. It has adopted that diversity of productive industry which avails itself of science and skill in every department of labor, and looks to the largest variety and the greatest excellence attainable in every species of industry required by the modern usages of civilized life. It em-

ploys, invites, and rewards that intelligence and endeavor which only wages in proportion to skill and efficiency can elicit from the laborer—the whole system is tuned and addressed to the march of human improvement, and the development to that end of all the highest and best qualities of its laborers and thinkers—it substitutes artificial for natural labor; relieves the muscles to employ the minds of its toilers, and lifts the drudges of past industries to the position of the engineers of its present and future labor, as rapidly as discovery and invention serves for this last and best emancipation of its men. The system of the South chattelizes its laborers; holds them in the least enlightened methods of production; forbids the enhancement of their capabilities; and resists all improvement which tends to convert its human drudges into freemen.

Politically, the systems of the respective parties differ as widely as a republic and an aristocracy; socially, as much as civilization and barbarism; industrially, all that distinguishes feudalism from freedom. The one necessarily advances, the other counter-marches, upon the path of progress.

Can they be reconciled and harmonized in such of their common interests and policy as by the Union are put under their joint administration? Under a consolidated Government, this would be clearly impossible; but under a Confederacy, with federal functions limited carefully for the honest preservation of their distinctive systems, fidelity to the spirit of the compact would easily avoid the conflict of incongruities. But, be it observed that the spirit of such a contract requires not only avoidance of all direct interference of territorial limits and jurisdiction, all violation of the express stipulations of the agreement, but it implies and requires, also, that neither party shall hinder or embarrass the progress of the other to the better and still better conditions which are within its capabilities. One of the partners in a mercantile firm may not justly be hindered by the other in such management and expansion of the joint business as are the legitimate means of prosperity. He must not cripple the activity and success of the business, because he has some private and reserved policy of his own which interferes. The best and largest success of the concern was the aim and the inducement of the contract to the enterprising partner, and he must not be clogged and crippled to accommodate the lagard of the firm.

This, if anything, was the purpose of the Union of these States. They did not unite to hold the ground and preserve the conditions they were in at the close of the last century, but they joined hands to run securely and rapidly the race set before them. It was not merely national independence which they leagued with each other to maintain, but to provide also for their future welfare, for their utmost possible prosperity, in arts, learning, commerce, and industry, and whatever else of good might be in their destiny. Punctuality and fidelity in the fulfillment of the mutual engagements fairly implied every reform and amendment in the special conditions which should ever become practicable and necessary to the highest capabilities of each and all of the parties. Each virtually promised to do the best in its power for itself, that it might the better contribute to the welfare of the whole.

If one man goes into business with another whose habits are somewhat faulty, and his service in the joint business thereby defective, amendment is impliedly conditioned for, even though it be stipulated that this shall not be a cause of complaint. But, if the faulty partner proceeds from tripping to drunkenness, from slight negligence of duty to total abandonment of it, and from care and economy to wastefulness, remonstrance and resistance are fairly justified, and the plea of equality in the firm will be no justification or warranty for the violation of its interests. It will not answer all complaints to refer to the articles of partnership, and show how the equal rights of the contracting parties are there provided for, and persist in disappointing the objects of the agreement, under shelter of provisions never meant to cover such mischievous constructions of its terms.

The sober member may justly answer, "I did know that you were a tippler, but it did not then seriously disqualify you for business; I do not interfere with your private life or domestic institutions, but you must not stagger into the store, disturb its business, confuse its management, and damage its character; go on with your tipping, if you will or must, but don't bring your insanities into the concern. I felt sure that the effect of prosperity, and the example of my own total reformation, would induce a corresponding amendment in your conduct; but if I must be disappointed in this, I may at least expect you to keep within the bounds which I bargained to tolerate. I have made up my mind that no more of the funds of the concern shall be invested in rum to be drunk on the premises. Sobriety shall be the rule of the firm—tipping must be the private enjoyment of those who think it best for them."

That the intercourse of the partners, while this state of things lasts, cannot be very cordial, is obvious enough. How they can manage to get along, without dissolving the partnership, is at first view difficult to settle; but there is hope, and a prospect which we will discuss in our next.

### THE OVERLAND MAIL.

The recent choice by the Administration of a route for the overland Pacific mail causes dissatisfaction throughout the free States, and especially at St. Louis. For while apparently a compromise is made between the North and South, and the contract is awarded to a Northern bidder, yet, in reality, this appearance is deceptive.

The insertion of St. Louis as one of the Eastern termini of the route, while Little Rock, in Arkansas, is the junction, or end of the main road, is of no practical benefit to the North. Heretofore, people in the region of Little Rock have first travelled to St. Louis, to cross overland to California; and, from this fact, our readers can judge of the folly of the location of a branch from Little Rock to St. Louis for a homeward trip. The quickest way to get to St. Louis from Little Rock is by Memphis; yet, ostensibly to gratify the North, the mail will divide, and two routes will be traversed—one to Memphis, the other to St. Louis! As a matter of course, travellers and the Northern mail must really come by Memphis, as that is the speediest route from Little Rock to New York. It is well not to be deceived by the misrepresentations of Southern journals; and our readers will see at once that the South has triumphed in the decision, as she generally does in whatever she attempts. The Missouri Democrat says:

"The importance of this decision rests in the generally-acknowledged fact that the route selected will be the forerunner of a Pacific railroad. Beginning at St. Louis and up the Mississippi river, and forming a junction at Little Rock, Arkansas: 'How is this to be effected?' By taking a boat at St. Louis, and going to Memphis, four hundred miles, or by stage through the swamps of Arkansas, or by boat down the Mississippi and up the Arkansas river to Little Rock, and there form a junction; thence to Preston, on the Texas Pacific railroad, (of which we have recently heard) thence to Donna Anna, a few miles above El Paso on the Del Norte; thence along the wagon road down the Gila to Fort Yuma; and thence nearly due north six hundred miles and on to San Francisco. The route from St. Louis route with a vengeance. It is the route of the Southern Texas Pacific railroad, which the nullifiers of Missouri have always advocated, and which their organs have puffed a few days ago, and, at the very time that the Administration at Washington were deliberating on the route for the overland mail, the route for which books for the stock subscription were opened at the assistant treasurer's office in this city, in the charge of the assistant treasurer."

### THE SOUTHERN REBELLION.

A large portion of the Southern journals, and, we confess, some of the ablest in the whole South, are dissatisfied with Governor Walker's course in Kansas, and refuse to imitate some of their cotemporaries, who, having discovered that the Administration will support Governor Walker, made haste to retrace their false steps.

The Richmond *South* is perhaps one of the boldest, as well as one of the ablest, of this class of newspapers in the slave States. It has attacked Governor Walker too bitterly to turn round suddenly and give him its support, at the suggestion of the organ of the Administration. It, however, at last, seems to be aware that Governor Walker has not violated his instructions, and it consequently uses plain language with the President. It says:

"If Mr. Buchanan entertains the idea that he can trifle with the feelings of the Southern Democracy, and may safely defy their vengeance, and that he can play the game of the serpent. But it is hardly possible that so sagacious a politician can mistake the apologetic tone of a few placemen for the genuine voice of the Southern people. Though the Southern members of the Cabinet are endeavoring to suppress the spirit of the State-Right Democracy, the distinct and emphatic utterance of the Georgia and Mississippi Conventions would not allow of so fatal an error as to suppose that any regard for the integrity of Party, or any attachment to the Administration, would compel a silent acquiescence in the Kansas outrage. If Mr. Buchanan attempts to shield Walker, he will only expose his own body to a mortal stroke. There is no divinity about the person of a President which the Democrats are afraid to violate. The instant the Administration assumes the responsibility of Walker's treachery, that instant will the subaltern sink out of sight, and the President become the object of the denunciation which is now levelled against his appointee."

The *South* reminds Mr. Buchanan that he owes his election to the South—that the North voted almost in a body against him, and that he was not the first choice, even of the South—and suggests that, under such circumstances, it will not do for him to offend the South.

For the bold utterance of its opinions, the *South* contemplates excommunication from its party. It says:

"For the free opinions we have expressed in regard to the infamous apostasy of Robert J. Walker, our party to the Democratic party has been impeached, and we are menaced with the terrible penalty of expulsion from the association of the faithful. We are every moment expecting to hear the dreadful sentence of excommunication. The nightly dreams are disturbed by visions of hell, and candles, and the grim horrors of the Yehim tribunal that holds its iniquitous court in some mysterious chamber of the White House. Yet, such is our incorrigible obstinacy, we continue to provoke our enemies to their escape by a fall reiteration of our heresies and our disobedience of forgiveness. The truth is, we are ambitious to suffer martyrdom in such a cause, and shall not try to escape the thunders of the little Vatican at Washington."

The *South* is not alone. Other Southern Democratic journals occupy the same position towards Governor Walker and the Administration that it does, and these papers unquestionably represent a large class of Southern politicians.

It seems, then, that an Administration professedly and actually *Pro-Slavery* to a moderate extent, does not satisfy the *South*. We trust the so-called Democracy of the North will note this fact, and, indeed, they cannot well overlook it. This Southern movement will open the eyes of hundreds of Democrats in the free States to do the truth. It proves that the Slavery Propagandists are not content with non-interference with Slavery—are not content with a chance to colonize Slavery in the Territories upon equal terms with the North—but demand that the Government connive at fraud and despotism to insure the triumph of Slavery.

When Northern Democrats have fully realized these truths, which are clear as the sun at noonday, they will perhaps conclude that the majority of the freemen of the United States may as well gather upon a platform of political non-interference with Slavery in the States where it exists, and stern opposition to its extension into Territories under the control of Congress.

A NEW DEMOCRATIC JOURNAL.—Col. Forney, late Clerk of the House of Representatives, and otherwise well known to the people of the United States, has issued the subjoined circular:

"The *Press*, a New Daily Newspaper, by John W. Forney.—I propose establishing a Philadelphia daily newspaper in the city of Philadelphia, between the 20th of July and the first of August, to be edited by the *Press*. The *Press* will be Democratic in its politics, and will maintain the policy of the present National Administration. It is my determination to make it worthy of the support of every class of readers. Dignity, courtesy, and independence in the utterance of my views on the political, literary, and literary in the commercial, literary, and literary departments, and respect for the opinions of others, will be kept constantly in view. I have embarked all my own means in this project, and intend building up a journal that will not only be creditable to my country, but will furnish me an independent livelihood. A somewhat extensive experience in public life, and many years connection with journalism, will, I hope, obtain for the *Press* a favorable reception. My friends in the different States and countries of the world, and in other States, will place me under many obligations by giving the *Press* a helping hand."

In August next, the people of Iowa are to vote upon the question of the adoption of a new Constitution, prepared last winter by a Constitutional Convention. The principal features of the new Constitution are thus summed up by an exchange:

"In the matter of State officers, the tenure of office has been limited to two years instead of four; a Lieutenant Governorship has been created; the Supreme Judges are to be elected for six years, one of them at each biennial election; the State is to be divided into eleven judicial districts, for the election of circuit judges and district attorneys; the Senate is fixed at fifty and the House at one hundred members, (now 35 and 40 respectively); the biennial sessions are retained. The seat of Government is permanently located at Fort Des Moines, and the city is to be called Des Moines. The State will not be allowed to contract a debt greater than \$250,000, and no city or town can incur a debt greater than the value of the land to do the same thing to a greater extent than five per cent. of its valuation. The Legislature can pass a general banking law, and also establish a State Bank with branches, but such a law or bank must be approved by a popular vote. A State board of education, to consist of five, Lieutenant Governor and one member from each of the judicial districts, the district member to hold office for four years, is to be established, with powers of legislation in all educational matters, subject to the supervision of the Legislature. The next election of members of Congress will occur in 1859, and afterwards in each second year, the time being changed, because the State elections will occur only in those years. The point of greatest interest in this new Constitution is the provision which does the same thing to a greater extent than five per cent. of its valuation. The Legislature can pass a general banking law, and also establish a State Bank with branches, but such a law or bank must be approved by a popular vote. 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## THE NATIONAL ERA

Washington, D. C.

G. BAILEY, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR;  
JOHN G. WHITTIER, CORRESPONDING EDITOR.

PROSPECTUS OF THE ELEVENTH VOLUME

0 BEGINNING JANUARY 1, 1958

The *National Era* is an uncompromising opponent of Slavery and the Slave Power; an advocate of personal, civil, and religious liberty, without regard to race or creed; a foe to all secret combinations to control the Ballot-box; whether under the direction of priests or men, and to all measures directly or indirectly countenancing proscription on account of birth.

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G. BAILEY  
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